

**CHURCH OF ST MARK THE EVANGELIST
REPORTS TO THE ANNUAL VESTRY HELD ON 23 FEBRUARY, 2014**

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Parish Statistics, 2013

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Households	222	217	212	208	209
Average Sunday Attendance	119	111	106	97	*99
Total attendance on comparable Sundays				4353	4052
Christmas	232	211	218	186	171
Easter	202	186	170	162	181
Baptized	3	1	6	4	6
Confirmed	8	0	0	0	0
Marriages	2	2	2	0	5
Deaths	14	14	11	12	10

* The calculation of Average Sunday Attendance for 2013 does not include the six Sundays this summer when services were held at St Michael and All Angels' and at St Richard's. The attendance at these services in previous years is significantly less than those held during other seasons of the year. This calculation does include the three Sunday when the other churches worshipped along with St Mark's, yielding a much higher than normal attendance. The net effect of these irregularities is to make the calculated average higher than it would have been had we not engaged in joint worship. This might mistakenly lead to the impression that attendance increased in 2013, which is not really the case. The total attendance at services on the 42 Sundays in 2012 and 2013 that can be directly compared is provided as another means of representing what happened in 2013.

Deaths

Martha Ellen Robertson
David Bruce Matthews
Peter Scharf
John Walter Hoy
Kathleen Matthews
Robert Harry James Stants
Lillian Alice Phillips
Sheila Margaret Vaudrey
Bettina Teresa Agnes Hoyme
Joseph Arthur Savill
Roderick William Slaughter

Marriages

Katherine Robertson & Jonathan Parrott
Jennifer Spallin & Benjamin Morris
Erin Perkin & Jamie Bordman
Mary Gibbard & Grant Bradley
Karina Levesque & Matthew Castiglia

Baptisms

Holden Bennet Kristjansson
Gavin Foster Throp
Lucas Andrew Clifford Valpy
Tamar Joan Priscilla Knight
Jackson Michael William Rogers Wynes
Claire Elizabeth Richards

Wardens' Report

Your two Wardens and the Rector, who make up the Corporation, as well as the Deputy Wardens and Treasurer, met regularly to discuss operations and concerns falling under the responsibility of the Corporation.

Our only change in staff in 2013 was in Director of Music. Barbara Hallam-Price, who was acting as interim Director while Ariane was on leave, had to vacate her position earlier than planned and played her last service on Easter Sunday. Donald Russell then ably filled in until the end of June. We were happy to welcome Ariane back in September.

The facilities of St Mark's continued to be extremely busy – with parish activities, with rentals, and with groups to whom we give the time and space. We did have some people who were there just occasionally, but most of our users were “regulars”. As examples, the Best Start Play Group attracted many happy preschoolers two mornings per week during the school year and Carleton Memorial Day Care rented the hall and kitchen for a summer day camp in July and August. We also continued our partnership with St Mark and St Monica Coptic Church, who now rent our hall and church for worship and fellowship on both Friday evening and Saturday during the day. We thank our altar guild and our cleaning company, among others, for their flexibility in working around these activities. We also thank Roger and Allen, who were our rental coordinators during the year, and also Margaret in the office for keeping the schedules straight.

Only one major property project took place during 2013. The Ottawa Hydro Lighting Use Reduction Plan converted twenty-four of the fluorescent units to energy saving electronic ballasts at no cost to us – it would have been \$1500. These ballasts should save about 25% of the usage value for each unit. The solar panels continue to bring us income and draw attention -Lucas Roofing were still using the photo of our roof for advertising well into 2013. One of the church pews was replaced with a short one to accommodate walkers and wheel chairs midway down the nave. Permission has been given to St. Rita's School to use Bishop Reid Hall in case of an evacuation. Thanks to Lorne, Les, Allen, Paul, Russell and Trevor for looking after our church property.

We were able to finish 2013 with a surplus of \$13,809, rather than a budgeted deficit of \$5,944. As will be explained in the Treasurer's Report, contributing to this great outcome was a close eye on expenditures, a higher-than-expected rental income and lower-than-expected salary costs. However, as in recent years, we will continue to face financial challenges in 2014, due in part to our decreasing and ageing parish population and gradual increase in expenses.

The diocesan GIFT campaign, to which St Mark's parishioners have shown great commitment, gave us the funds to action some of our collective vision in 2013 in support of our parish nursing ministry, Debra Dynes Family House, Christian education and capital reserves . More details about GIFT can be found elsewhere in this Vestry Report.

Progress was made on several fronts to increase and improve parish communications.

- The parish newsletter, Mark This Word, was revamped in the able hands of compilers Brenda Zanin, Margaret Lodge and Father Brian. It is now available in three formats – hard copy, sent directly to your email, or viewed on the St Mark's website. Mark This Word is also a blog, which allows you to add comments or opt for “instant” delivery to your inbox.
- A Parish Directory was completed under the direction of Cynthia Greer, and has been distributed to those with their names in the directory who have expressed a wish to have a copy. The intent of the Directory is to allow parishioners to contact each other more easily.

- Our parish nurse, Janet Helmer, now has a page on the parish website, containing a wealth of information on many aspects of wellness.
- A new online parish calendar makes it more straightforward for our secretary, rental coordinator and rector to keep track of the events in our parish and the use of our facilities. This same product is being used to produce a printable monthly calendar that informs parishioners as to “what is going on” at St Mark’s.

Much has happened over the year as we continue our Ministry Assessment Process (MAP) with St Richard’s and St Michael and All Angels. Since agreeing to continue discussions at last year’s Vestry, the three parishes have done many things together, including pulpit exchanges, summer worship, Lenten and Advent programs, and holding well-attended open meetings where we shared our stories and discussed possible ways forward. St Mark’s has also had its own conversations on the topic. A number of reports have been produced along the way; these are available both on our website and in hard copy. There will be a special Vestry on or before April 6, 2014 to vote on a resolution relating to what our next steps may be.

We are thankful for the privilege and opportunity to have served as your wardens with Father Brian this past year.

Jane Delroy, People’s Warden

Georgia Roberts, Rector’s Warden

Synod 2013

Responding to Human Need by Loving Service

“Whatever You Did for One of the Least of These.....You Did for Me”(MT 25:40)

Rev Brian Kauk, Jane Delroy, and Jennifer Morphew attended Great Chapter which is the precursor to Synod.

Synod: Jane Delroy, Jennifer Morphew, Pamela Rogers were your Synod members, Michael Perkin also attended.

The Bishop’s Charge was given at the Thursday evening Eucharist.

Bishop John Chapman welcomed Bishop Suheil Dawani and his wife Shafeeqa who were visiting us from our companion diocese of Jerusalem. The partnership is already producing fruit. The Ottawa diocese is planning clergy support for a Jerusalem Parish and is hoping to support a youth pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2015.

The Bishop commented on the implementation of last year’s charge of thinking of church in a new way, giving as examples; the new “store front” ministry in Barrhaven, Anglican/ Lutheran shared ministry in Renfrew, our M.A. P. consultations as well as initiatives in All Saints Sandy Hill and the congregations in the Northern Pontiac and West Quebec. Bishop John commented on the Congregational Development Days, the Daily Bread Project, the involvement of youth in our parishes, Education and ministry (EfM), the Gift campaign, and Outreach in its many and varied forms.

More detailed information was published in the December Crosstalk and is available on the diocesan web site.

Bishop Suheil gave two presentations to Synod. He stated that religion must be part of the solution and not the problem in the bringing of peace to the Middle East. He told us that Jewish, Christian and Muslim religious leaders meet regularly to work on a peace plan. The diocese of Jerusalem extends over five countries, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Israel. The main

problem in the diocese is the dwindling numbers of Anglicans. In 1967 there were 30,000 now there are about 7,000. In spite of this the diocese operates a very active and growing network of educational and healthcare institutions. One of these is the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City which serves the poorest of the poor irrespective of race or creed. Bishop John presented Bishop Suheil with a cheque for the hospital for \$20,000, \$5,000 from our diocese and \$15,000 from P.W.R.D.F which they had received through the GIFT campaign.

Both presentations gave us a wealth of information both on our present relationships and for hopes for the future cooperation between the two dioceses. There are plans being formed for a youth visit to Jerusalem. Bishop John's wife Catherine and Bishop Suheil's wife Shafeeqa, want to plan a Women's conference in the Holy Land in 2015. In the meantime it is hoped that women in both dioceses will get to know each other through Facebook.

Other Highlights

GIFT Monica Patten told us that the total sum was pledged etc. was \$12.1 million. \$2.3 million had already been dispersed to parishes. However there was a shortfall in the cash flow at the end of the year.

St Luke's Table This new Community Ministry has developed out of St Luke's Lunch Club and Drop-in Centre. It has now become a Centre much on the same lines as 454.

Finances Income for 2012 was \$8.2 million costs \$8.3 million a deficit of \$105,000. Part of the reason was a shortfall in investments and overspending on support for parishes.

A motion was passed against Quebec's proposed ban on religious symbols in the workplace.

Note from Jenny

I attended a workshop on the Diocesan Partnership between Ottawa and Jerusalem, where we received more detailed information on the ministries and outreach programs. This was especially interesting to me personally as I had visited Jerusalem while on a pilgrimage in the early sixties. At that time Jerusalem was still a divided city.

I also attended the dinner. The guest speaker was Dr Jeffrey Turnbull chief of staff at The Ottawa Hospital and co-founder and medical director of Ottawa Inner City Health, who gave a very interesting and dynamic address. He told us about his work among the poor and marginalized in the city. He emphasized the growing gap between rich and poor and the resulting health problems. He told us how taking the healthcare into the down town shelters was being implemented in an attempt to try to solve some of the problems. This "virtual" hospital is working.

We were urged by Bishop John to take Synod information back to our parishes

Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling was our guest the following Sunday and she gave an excellent sermon on the highlights of Synod.

Respectively submitted Jennifer M Morphew

St Mark's Prayer Ministries

Prayer & Praise Group

This group met in the church choir room each Tuesday evening (7:30 -9:00 p.m.) during the entire year, except for a month in the summer.

Membership this past year consisted of eight people, with an average attendance of six. The evening's program consists of times of meditation; prayer for those on our Parish Prayer Cycle and others known to us needing special prayer for healing; Bible study and sung worship. Leadership rotated amongst the membership.

All are welcome to join us at any time.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Dicks

Parish Prayer Cycle Phoning Team

Each week one of a team of three callers contacts those people whose names are on the Parish Prayer Cycle for that week, asking if they have any requests for prayer for themselves, their family members or friends for whom they would like us to pray. These requests are shared with Fr. Brian but are kept confidential by the members of the prayer group, who offer these requests to God at our prayer meetings and in our own private prayers. At the present time one of our three callers is out of town for four months and we would appreciate the help of at least one more caller. If you can be that person, please call Carol Dicks at (613) 224-0858. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Dicks

St Mark's E-prayer

In 2013 the E-prayer group added 7 new members with 54 parishioners praying by e-mail for people who requested prayers.

The majority of our prayers were for the sick. We prayed for 60 people or families, for health, surgery and recovery. We gave thanks for ten who were 'healed'. We were saddened by the loss of 19 parishioners, family or friends. We gave thanks for their life and prayed for comfort for their families.

We gave prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of three babies, five baptisms, four first communions, three marriages and one 65th anniversary. And we prayed for various stages of spiritual and daily life.

Our prayers were not only for the church family, but for our own families and friends, and not just in Canada. Some people we only knew by name. Some prayers came with simple information and some with a lot; some with follow-up and some with none. We rejoiced and we grieved.

Over the years the E-prayer circle has worked as a conduit between pray-ers and those being prayed for. It has helped provide an instant prayer link of support and comfort when it was needed. Another aspect of the E-prayer circle is that those we pray for can use the circle to give updates on their situation and also give their thanks:

- Thank you all so much for your prayers, concern, and love, which is greatly appreciated and uplifting. Blessings to you all.
- Much appreciation as always on behalf of us all for the continued support.
- Thanks a thousand times over for all the incredible support that has been showered upon me.

This next prayer of thanks was from Sheila Vaudrey just 10 days before she died.

- ... I'm extremely conscious of the fact that a whole lot of people are continuing to pray for me, so let's let them know how effective their prayers have been! ... I give full credit to God, with assistance from all of those lovely folks who continue to uphold me in prayer.

As in past years we thank those who have put their trust in us, by using the E-prayer for their own prayer requests, and we give thanks to our pray-ers who receive the E-prayer requests, and have added all these people to their own prayers,

If you want to join the E-prayer list of pray-ers, or have prayers said for you, St Mark's E-prayer can be reached via drblodge@sympatico.ca ... or just let me know.

If only one extra person offers their prayers for another it will be worth while. Please join us.

Margaret Lodge
E-prayer Coordinator

Outreach

As usual the people of St. Mark have responded to the many requests of the various groups towards giving to outreach

Donations to Debra Dynes Family House included items for the food bank, mother's day and back to school supplies.

Items for the Bales to the North were delivered to St. Columba's for packing.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Respectfully submitted,
Gillian Morris

Altar Guild

The altar guild continues to work "behind the scenes". The four teams, which include two men, clean and set up for services, while working to fit in around the schedule of the church. This year we were able to buy a complete set of new linens, which we are pleased about, as many of the old linens were becoming thin and fragile. Some of the older linens that were in better condition were shared with the teams who provide services off site.

We are always looking for new members who might be interested in supporting this ministry, please contact me if you think you might be able to help.

Penny Miller, President

Flowers

This year we continued with the policy that flowers will only be placed in the church if there is a memorial contribution.

If you have an occasion, birthday, anniversary or remembrance, that you would like to mark with a flower arrangement, for the Sunday services, please complete a flower request form, found on the flower board in the link and submit it to the office with a cheque. The usual cost of flowers is approximately \$40-\$50.00 unless you want something more exotic. We work with the flower department at the Loblaw's at Baseline and Merivale and if we can give them enough notice they will endeavour to order whatever we want, from their suppliers.

Looking forward to creating more beautiful arrangements, your flower team.

The Flower Team

Screening in Faith

What is screening?

Screening involves assessing the risks involved in a particular position or ministry; finding an appropriate match between task and volunteer (or candidate for a job); providing sensitization and training, and sometimes altering the setting and arrangement of ministry delivery to minimize risks and maximize the ministry's success. (<http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/SIF.html>)

The Screening in Faith Committee is comprised of Les Cundell, Georgia Roberts and Michael Perkin with assistance from Margaret Williamson. It continues to work on the screening process and procedures at St. Mark's.

Our records show that 1 application was made for a Police Records Check (PRC) for the year 2013. We will have to carry out 5 Police Records Checks and 1 renewal in 2014.

We confirmed with the Ottawa Police Service that the requirement for a Police Records Check is for "each volunteer applicant to take his/her own completed application, in person, to the police station of their choice, either 245 Greenbank Road or 473 Elgin Street, and they will need to take 2 valid pieces of identification (one of which must be a photo ID) and a letter from the Church confirming his/her Volunteer status to have a Records Check done free of charge. As this could present some difficulties to some volunteers, members of the Screening in Faith committee will be happy to provide assistance to volunteers applying for Police Records Checks or renewals.

The Ministries and positions designated as High-risk are:

- Rector (Diocesan responsibility) -
- Pastoral Care (Perley Visitors not included) -
- Church School (Head and Teachers) -
- Rector's Wardens, Rector's Deputy Warden -
- Nursery (Head and Helpers) -
- People's Warden, People's Deputy Warden -
- Friendly Visitors -
- Instructor of Servers -
- Junior Choir (Leader) -
- Home Communion Visitors -
- Screening in Faith Committee (4) -
- Parish Administrator (not a volunteer) -
- Parish Nurse (not a volunteer)

Plans for 2014 include:

- 1) Continuing work on the Screening program – with new Police Records Checks applications/Reference Checks etc. for volunteers in High-risk ministries;
- 2) Notifying volunteers who need to have their records updated.
- 3) Updating Job Descriptions files (from 2002)
- 4) Contacting Heads of Groups for up-to-date lists of group members for inclusion in St. Mark's Volunteer list.

I would like to thank Michael Perkin, Georgia Roberts and Margaret Williamson for their help and guidance.

Respectfully submitted, Les Cundell

Choir

This year has been another year of changes for the choir. We began the year with Barbara Hallam-Price as interim organist and choir director (January to Easter) and then Barbara left to take up a permanent job at St Bartholomew's. Barbara had been hired to remain with us until Ariane's return. When she left, we were fortunate to be able to hire Donald Russell on a weekly honorarium basis as an "interim interim" organist and choir director to replace her from April 11 until June 23. Ariane returned on September 1, and Thursday rehearsals recommenced on September 12.

During this past year we were fortunate to have both Don Marjerrison and Donald Russell fill in as organist/choir director on occasional Sundays and Thursdays. Additionally, we have several members of the choir who assist in sectionals and rehearsals, including Brenda Zanin, Bruce Lodge and Joy Bowerman. We also have some former choristers who join us from time to time and have also welcomed guest choristers from both St Richard's and St Michael and all Angels.

Kate Greer-Close continued as choir president until the end of December when her term was completed. Margaret Lodge was vice-president throughout Kate's term and Jenny Morphew was the representative to Parish Council (in Kate's stead). Coralie Sheehan continued as secretary and treasurer, and Cynthia Greer as social convenor. Jenny Morphew looked after our music library and Janis Perkin mended our musical scores and books. Joy Bowerman made new choir gowns when required and Jenny Morphew organised gowns and books for new or visiting choristers.

The senior choir is an SATB choir. We began the year with 19 members. and have gained three new members since September: Gillian Martin (alto), Katie Hartai (alto) and Ron Lewis (bass). We have lost two members: David Matthews (tenor), who passed away in April, and Patricia Hutton (alto), who retired in September.

Senior choir practice was on Thursday evenings from 7pm until 9pm and we met at 9:15AM on Sundays to rehearse before the service. The idea was to begin earlier (9:15 instead of 9:30) so that we would be finished with time to spare before the 10AM service began. We typically sang one hymn and one anthem during Communion and supported the congregational singing of hymns and one psalm. Occasionally we sang an introit.

At our last rehearsal in June, Donald Russell presented the Senior choir with an anthem he had composed for us, "Go Forth and Seek your God". This was sung on June 23 and again in the fall.

The senior choir sang at 10 AM Sunday services from January to June 23. The summer services were on a rotating schedule with St Michael's and St Richard's and their organists filled in for the weeks at St Mark's as Donald was only hired until June 23 and Ariane did not recommence until

September 1. The senior choir resumed for regular 10AM services on September 15. Normally we have a pick-up choir all through the summer but because we did not have a director/organist through the summer this summer was irregular.

The senior choir also sang at special afternoon and evening services. We have sung as a choir for funerals, and as individuals and in small groups we have supported our friends and former choristers by singing with them where and when they needed us.

David Matthews (tenor) was remembered by members of the choir at his funeral, his interment and in a gift given in his name (the choir always offers a donation in name of choristers who die). We also sang for the funeral of Fr. Gordon Worden (a former rector of this parish) at Christ Church Cathedral upon the request of his wife, Leslie, with the choir from the Church of the Epiphany. We also lost Sheila Vaudrey this past September. Sheila was an enthusiastic singer and occasionally accompanied us on her (native) drum. At Sheila's funeral, there was a true meeting of both of her communities, the liturgy and music of St Mark's with her aboriginal drum circles.

We sang at the ecumenical service during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity, at St Mark's, with choristers from Madonna della Risurrezione. A delicious reception was held after and was enjoyed by both congregations.

The senior choir also sang at afternoon/evening services during Lent and Holy Week, including Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve. The senior choir greatly enjoys evensongs and really appreciates the participation and support of the congregation at these parish services.

We began the year with a choir party hosted by Bruce and Margaret Lodge, on January 18. We are attempting to take more photos of the choir as former parishioners and choristers often ask to see past photos. We took a choir photo with Barbara on Easter Sunday. This first half of the year ended with a party hosted by Jenny Morphew.

In September, there was a joint service with the two other churches involved in the Ministry Assessment Process, St. Richard's and St. Michael and All Angels. Tim Piper was hired to lead members from all three choirs, as well as some instrumentalists and to coordinate the musical elements of the liturgy, which ranged from the traditional Pitoni "Cantate Domino" to Tim's own compositions for several parts of the ordinary of the Mass. The service took place at St. Richard's.

On November 10 we commemorated Remembrance Day with the help of trumpeter John Merritt.

The choir's major musical projects were the Advent Carol Service and the Nine Lessons and Carols Service in December. We were joined by organists David Huddleson and Donald Russell for the Advent Carol Service. An invitation was sent out to the singers of both St. Richard's and St. Michael and All Angels to come and sing the Nine Lessons and Carols Service with us. Melissa Haussman, Ed Bush and Sevilla Leontowane (from St Michael and All Angel's) were able to join us.

Although there is no Junior choir at the moment, former junior choir members still contribute their considerable talents to enrich the liturgy from time to time. November 24, the Feast of the Reign of Christ, was celebrated in the context of a special grand-parents' Sunday. Former junior choristers Thomas, Joshua and Owen Pilson sang John Carter's "The Shepherd Psalm". On Christmas Eve, former junior choristers Sarah and Alex Dee were responsible for the music for the 7pm service, along with Adam Salmond (Ariane's son). Alex, Sarah and Deirdre Sheehan-Laxton also each joined the choir for one of the carol services.

Respectfully submitted by Kate Greer-Close (for Jan. 1 – Sept.1)
and Ariane Dind (Sept. 1 – Dec. 1)

Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union is a world-wide sisterhood within the Anglican Church, with 4 million members in 83 countries. The aims are:

- to share Christ's love and teaching by supporting and nurturing marriage and family life,
- to maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians, united in prayer worship and service,
- to seek justice for all,
- to support individuals and families in troubled circumstances.

St Mark's branch was re-established in 1983, and we are individually very involved in the life of St. Mark's. We wear many hats, and provide many services, all connected to our Aims and mandate. One of those hats is the church Membership Committee, where we helped with the parish Seniors' lunches, and another is running the Nursery. Members of the MU also helped at the Church Army's fall meeting in Ottawa, by serving the potluck and cleaning up.

2013: Our year started with an Epiphany Dinner January 25, at Algonquin's Restaurant International. Our matriarch, Joan Knight, had two big milestones this year. She turned 90 in February and MU held a surprise English Tea for her. With help from son Will, and Beth, we arrived at her apartment, with mini sandwiches, trifles, scones and cream, silver tea pot and china, and just took over! Then a month later she welcomed a new grandchild, Will and Beth's daughter, Tamar.

Our meetings are open to the parish, and are now held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the church, starting at 1:00pm. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend our meetings. We presently have 10 active members and 2 supporting members, plus Bruce and Paul who are acting auxiliary members and chief BBQ-ers.

Outreach: Mothers' Union is not a fundraising organization, but everything that we are involved in on a social, community level, requires funds or donations in kind. We have been very fortunate at St Mark's to have the support of a very giving parish. Without this help none of our programs would be as successful as they are. In 2013 we raised over \$1000 for outreach - \$430 from the picnic and BBQ, \$650 from book sales, plus the various donations of goods for the Advent tree and Bales etc. Our projects during 2013 included:

- ACW Bales for the North: The bales have been an annual project of Anglican women for over a hundred years. Jenny and Gillian from MU helped pack bales. Circle 2 also make an annual donation to the Bales. Each 40lb bale of goods costs over \$100 to send.
- Picnic and BBQ: MU organizes these two annual events, raising funds for various charities.
- Debra-Dynes: although not directly involved in Debra-Dynes, MU does support its programs, and 2 of our members are particularly involved.
- Advent Giving Tree: this was a great success again this year. We collected hats, mitts, scarves, socks, and underwear, toiletries, special seasonal foods, and small gifts. These were shared out among Centre 454, The Well, the Mission, Hope Outreach, Operation Come Home, and new this year, St Luke's Table.
- Mothers' Union outreach is also within the parish, with annual and even weekly events.
- Mothering Sunday March 10: 4th Sunday of Lent we served Simnel cake and coffee and gave carnations to the ladies of the church. Through the generosity of Loblaw's, the flower cost was covered - except the taxes!

- Picnic June 23: our charity for the picnic was the PWRDF Sahel Famine project an education and technical program to assist farmers. We raised \$228.50.
- BBQ September 15: this year attendance was down, and it was felt that many parishioners had just not 'come back' yet, after the shared worship with St Richard's and St Michael's in the summer. Our charity was Bishop Chapman's \$1 per Person for Jerusalem. The BBQ raised \$177, which was rounded up to \$200 from the cheque we received for helping at the Church Army dinner.
- Summer Tea Party at Billings: although purely a social activity for MU, we did a bit of 'outreach' on a social level. MU had in the past invited other groups like Circle 2 to join our teas. This year we decided to invite a few 'new' ladies. We had the pleasure of getting to know three new parishioners better, and they, each other.
- November Bazaar we raffled an afghan, made by Diane McCaul. It was won by Bob Booth, a long-time member of Carleton Memorial, and neighbour of Diane ! We raised \$39 on the afghan and \$84 on the candle table and donated \$30 to the bazaar.
- Grandparent Sunday November 24 – Reign of Christ: This was something MU had thought about repeating ever since we held a family service in 2007. This time we wore one of our other hats as Membership Committee. (see Membership Report) A good time was had by all, and several of the 'visiting' grandchildren decided church school was the place to be.
- 'Buck a book' table raised \$650. All the money is sent to outreach. These include \$150 to Akany Famojena orphanage and a day centre for teens in Madagascar, \$200 to PWRDF, plus an extra \$100 for typhoon aid in the Philippines, and \$250 to Mothers' Union projects including the Northern Clergy Families Fund. Jenny Morphew organizes the table every Sunday.

I would like to take this opportunity, which I know I repeat every year, to thank you our parishioners who support all our endeavours. It is your generosity, your concern and support that allow us to be God's hands in the neighbourhood, our city, and around the world. May God bless you for your love and caring.

Respectfully submitted,
 Cynthia Greer, Mothers' Union Branch Leader.

Membership

The Membership Committee presently is made up as needed, in general by Mothers' Union Members, one of their many hats. Although MU is an active part of the committee, membership is open to anyone who would like to serve. I use M.U. members as they are more available to me - I have their email addresses ! However I call upon different people both male and female depending on the task. In fact one of our non-MU membership parishioners suggested, donated and sent out Christmas cards to all parishioners ... the spirit of the season. I hope you received yours.

We have gained and lost members in more or less the same numbers. Due to our parish being founded by returning vets in the late 40s, an increasing number of our parishioners now live in retirement homes, or some type of supported accommodation. This change of location often changes the worshipping pattern of our members. Some people move house, and while we would like to see them continue here, it makes more sense to encourage them to attend a church closer to their new location.

The purpose of the committee is to work with and for the people of the parish. In 2013 we introduced St Mark's Parish Nursing & Pastoral Care Ministry leaflet, with information about the various aspects of pastoral care, health and spiritual health. The leaflet also included information

on our various 'healing' prayer groups. It is part of a work-in-progress series of leaflets including St Mark's 'get involved' and 'welcome' ones in the pews.

For better social interaction, the new open-parish directory was finally produced in 2013. An initiative started in 2012, the directory is a list of those willing to share their names, addresses and phone numbers with other members of the parish. The Diocesan privacy of information policy has in the past prevented anyone asking the church for a phone number of a fellow parishioner or even how a parishioner was, if they had been absent from church. The policy was well founded, but became too restrictive for people in a caring parish like St Mark's, who wished to be able to contact a parishioner. Virtually all who regularly attend church agreed to have their names included. If you would like a copy, and gave permission for your information to be included, please speak to Cynthia Greer

A new role of Membership in 2013 was working with Janet Helmer, our Parish Nurse, to expand the list of seniors for the two Seniors' Lunches. It was time to include our more active seniors, and let them sit and be waited on. Membership also helped by contacting by phone, as follow-up from the personal invitations sent out by Janet. Our members also helped in other capacities.

As mentioned in the Mothers' Union report, Grandparent Sunday was held on November 24 – Reign of Christ. Again, MU had organized an inter-generational family service in 2007 and had always supported any opportunity to get young and old together. Then in February we were so impressed by the Scouts' Baden-Powell service, that we were inspired to work towards another family-oriented service, this time geared towards grandparents. Working in conjunction with our Church school leader Kate Greer-Close, our grandparents were invited to bring their grandchildren to church, and vice versa. The church was nearly full – of families. We had grandparents in their 90s, grandchildren only a few months old, and everything in between. The themes for the Sunday were from the readings, of the scattered sheep and Christ as King. Dozens of sheep were scattered around the church to be herded back to the fold by our shepherd and king James Kelly. Thanks Jim! The children had special songs and crafts; processed back to church wearing crowns, waving flags and singing. A joyous celebration was had by all. Each family was given a magnet depicting St Mark's Good Shepherd window.

We were also able to honour our longest serving choir members who are all grandparents. As in past years, one of the unofficial roles of the Membership Committee has been to feed our parishioners. Food is a very important part of our fellowship here. Anything that involves gatherings involves food. In fact if you want a gathering, you add food. !

Coffee Hour: the most frequent and noticeable gathering is after the services on Sunday Helen McGill (8a.m.) and Georgia Roberts (10am) coordinate the coffee hour rosters. Jean Cobb and Cynthia Greer both welcomed the new co-ordinators.

Parish Breakfasts: Although these are not part of membership, they do feed our membership and are very well attended. For many years they were held 4 times-a-year and organized by Lorne and Connie Bowerman, but due to health concerns, the breakfast were put on hold in September, to be taken over by Brian Harrison in January 2014. Thank you to Lorne and Connie for feeding our parishioners so well and for so long, and to Brian Harrison for willingly taking over.

Advent Carols and Nine Lessons and Carol services in December were organized by Suzanne Wilkins (Advent – potluck), and Georgia Roberts and Penny Miller (9 lessons) purchased tourtières and salads with a \$5 donation). Both services and suppers were very well supported with more attendees than last year. Thank you for taking responsibility for the suppers. Greet the Christ Child reception after the late night Christmas Eve service is another contribution from the Membership / MU group. We keep thinking that each time will be the last, and less

people will attend, but every Christmas Eve people want to stay to welcome Christ's birth, with food and fellowship, as they wait to sing 'We wish you a merry Christmas' at midnight.

As a Parish, we have a group of very active and hard working core members who make sure things keep going and get done, but helpers for all parish events are down each year. We are always looking for new 'hands' to share the load or to join a group.

Many hands make light work and one of the easiest ways of helping out is to join a group: coffee, nursery, altar guild, or sides- people or help set-up or clean-up from an activity, supper, bazaar, or rummage sale. The demands are not onerous, but you get to know people better, and it's a good way to get involved.

Thank you to those who have contributed in some way to the well being of St. Mark's. This is what makes our church a very welcoming place.

Respectfully submitted,
 Cynthia Greer, Membership Committee Chair.

The Nursery

The Nursery, for babies and toddlers up to age 5, has a roster of helpers, all of whom must fill in a Police Records check through the Screening in Faith team. Helpers work in twos, and are available from 9:45, until 11:30, or when the service ends.

I had been in charge of the nursery program and roster of helpers for a number of years. I felt it was time to retire, and let younger parents take over. Since that did not appear to be happening, I took over again. I feel it is absolutely necessary to support young families, and 'no nursery' gives the wrong message. I was concerned that there needed to be leadership for our youngest members. We now use a simple method. I have a person for each Sunday of the month, and at present the mother of the youngest stays in as a second person. On the 5th Sunday of the month, I find an extra helper. Many thanks to Kathy Chu, Betty Caughlin, James Kelly, and Carolyn McCaul. Gillian Morris is also involved in preparing colouring sheets, a story if needed, and in general over seeing.

As Kate Greer-Close said in her report, we now work together with church school. After circle time with Janis we meet together for a song, or more, a prayer, and usually at least the introduction to the lesson. Sometimes the little ones stay for the lesson, and then go into the nursery for their own craft, and sometimes the nursery helper becomes a 'help us do the craft together' person.

Usually we try to stay with the lectionary readings, but sometimes it is too abstract for them, so we change to a familiar bible story. They need to learn that God loves us, and they are surrounded by the love of the people of St Mark's.

A little bit of information I learnt during Father David Stalter's children's time:

The answer (to his questions) is always JESUS., and :

JOY stands for Jesus, Others, Yourself in your list of priorities.

The nursery children go back into church for a blessing or for Communion.

We would dearly like to add a few more helpers.

Respectfully submitted,
 Cynthia Greer, Nursery Coordinator

Sunday Coffee Hour

Helen McGill coordinates coffee after the 8 a.m. service. She has 10 or so faithful volunteers who prepare a wonderful spread after the service, from September to June.

Cynthia Greer did the first four months and Georgia Roberts organized the last 8 months of the 2013 roster for after the 10 o'clock Eucharist. There are presently 10 regular teams, and occasionally a special group (such as Scouts or Mothers Union).

There is a need for more helpers, as some are now finding lifting the trays and teapots too challenging. Serving coffee is an excellent way to get to know your fellow parishioners. A new volunteer is always connected to a team who knows the ropes.

Again, our thanks go to those who are so faithful and willing, and provide a very important service to the parish. Some of the most interesting "stuff" in a parish happens at coffee hour!! Speak to one of us or to the office if you would like to join a team or create a new one.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen McGill, Georgia Roberts

Slim and Trim

Slim and trim had a very successful year with numbers about the same. Attendance has been good in spite of several cancellations due to bad weather

We donated \$550 to the church and \$25 to the typhoon in the Philippines.

Thank you Gail for providing carrot cake and coffee on the last day.

Once again we would like to express our thanks to Gail Denton our instructor, and to Rose who keeps the floor clean for us.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer M. Morphew

St Mark's Ladies Guild

Financial Statement

St Mark's Ladies Guild Financial Statement

Receipts

Jan 31 2013	Bank Balance	\$1,083.96
	Calendars	\$157.50
		<u>1,241.46</u>

Expenses

	Diocesan ACW	\$500.00
	Service Charges	\$24.50
	Cash on Hand	\$150.00
	Bank Balance	\$566.96
		<u>\$1,241.46</u>

Resepctfully Submitted,
Jacqueline Sorfleet, Treasurer
St. Mark's ACW Umbrella Group

Circle 2- are struggling to keep going. We still hold the Art Show – this year it is April 12th. Do come and see some great ART. We help at funerals. We made 180 Christmas puddings with the help of Mothers Union Ladies. We process used stamps for the Leprosy Association of Canada, and assist anywhere we are needed. We could do with some new members.

Parish Nursing and Pastoral Ministries

Jesus said, "As you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me" Matthew 25:40

Report by the Parish Nurse

My journey as 2014 Vestry report from the parish Nurse

My healing ministry, promoting holistic health of body mind and spirit continues to evolve as I move into my second year as your parish nurse. My relationship with the community and individual parishioners is maturing through mutual trust, respect and loving compassion, following Jesus' lead as a healer. This September, I completed my Foundations in Parish Nursing certification program offered through the Institute for Catholic Formation in London Ontario. I thank you for this challenge and opportunity as I have formed life-long connections with like-minded nurses.

Our Senior's bi-annual gatherings demonstrate the value for our older parishioners to together as both a worship and social community. These events are well attended and appreciated. One of the key factors in healthy aging is keeping connected to your community and socializing with others. At our recent "Caring For Each Other" congregational discussion, a number of ideas were put forward to enhance how we respond to meetings these needs. A report of the proceedings can be found on the St Mark's Parish Nurse webpage under Health Events 2014. Stay tuned!

In Fall 2013, I provided supervision and mentoring for 3 Algonquin BScN nursing students in their fourth year community health nursing course. In collaboration with myself, these young women focused their project on chronic care self-management (CCSM). They administered the

survey approved by our Health Committee which validated the importance of healthy lifestyle behaviours for staying healthy as we age. They provided a presentation to our community on the topic. We learned together how spiritual health supports physical and mental health.

An outcome of this initiative was our recent Nordic Pole Walking Clinic on Jan 15th in BRH. Twenty participants learned how this lifestyle friendly activity (you just pick up your poles and walk!) is so beneficial. It is already “spreading” as 2 other churches are talking about offering this program in-house.

Perhaps, an ecumenical Nordic Pole Walking group will spring forward?

I feel God’s GRACE and support as I walk beside the sick and dying in our parish. Your loving support of this Parish Nursing ministry fills me.

Janet Helmer, Parish Nurse

Health Committee Report

During 2013, the Health Committee (HC) met nine times. Each meeting heard from the parish nurse, Janet Helmer, about her plans for educational programming regarding personal care for parishioners. A trifold information brochure was created to inform what supporting ministries exist at St Mark’s. A questionnaire was developed listing various possible health concerns and asking which areas people wanted to learn more about.

During the fall, Janet was supervising student nurses while they gained some practical experience. Once the questionnaires were returned, the student nurses did educational follow up both at Park Place and at St Mark’s.

The HC recommended a slight rearrangement of pews to accommodate wheel chairs.

The Health Committee explored acquiring a defibrillator and training for users at St Mark’s. A request was forwarded to the parish council to apply some of the memorial money to this project or to consider it for the 2014 budget.

In May, the parish nurse presented a seminar at the Diocesan Resource Day on the role of a parish nurse. The seminar included the history of Parish nursing at St Mark’s and the role of the Health Committee.

Several conversations were held to explore our understanding of the Diocesan Screening policies. We considered the application of this to carpooling and visiting and are still exploring these. A phone contact list is being developed.

In the spring and again in the fall, the HC supported St Mark’s hosting of our seniors at luncheon following a Eucharist. We had an excellent turn out of approximately sixty guests.

It has been a privilege to support Janet and serve the parishioners of St Mark’s.

Respectfully,
Judy Darling, chair

72nd St Mark's Scout Group



The Mission of Scouting is: To contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities through the application of Principles and Practices. Scouting based on three broad principles which represent its fundamental beliefs: Duty to God, Duty to Others, and Duty to Self.

I thought this year I would showcase a year in programming for one of our sections so you can get a sense of what the youth are doing when they come out to 'cubs' and to get sense of the many and varied experiences the youth are exposed to when a successful program is provide by skilled, dedicated and talented leaders.

I have chosen the cub program this year but it could have been beavers, scouts or venturers as all the leaders in these sections have the same high level of energy and enthusiasm. The leaders in the cub section are; Greg Gagne (contact leader) Henry Starzynski, Susan Robertson, and Kerrin Robertson. These leaders have a total of 65 years of experience in scouting.

A random selection of meetings and activities they put on for the fall, winter and spring is as follows:

Sept 9, a sections meeting (games, activities and camp fire, Vincent Massey Park)
 Sept 23, beginning of star work to achieve badges
 Sept 28, shoreline clean up at Pinecrest Creek, community service
 Oct 18-23, Fall camp
 Oct 28, Halloween, bobbing for apples, games
 Nov 10, Remembrance Day Service at St. Marks.
 Nov 11, Visit to Diefenbunker in Carp
 Dec 13, Christmas craft making
 Dec 16, Christmas and Holiday party
 Jan 13, Tour of Paramedic Head Quarters
 Jan 31, Feb. 02, winter camp, Opemikon, Perth
 Feb 04, sorting food at Ottawa Food Bank
 Feb24, exchange visit with 123rd Ottawa cub group
 March 10, a winter hike in the neighbourhood
 March 31, pack cub car rally night
 April 7, visit to Ottawa Airport
 April 28, Veteran/Peacekeeping/Military personal visit
 May 5 visit to OC transpo garage
 May 12, Geocaching hike in Ottawa area

As you can see some of the activities listed would be difficult to do outside a scout type environment and I have not included all of the exciting things that took place during the year. We all believe as scouters that the experiences are youth receive in scouting make them better persons now and in the future and make them more rounded on their outlook on life.

The 72nd St. Marks Scout Group would again like to thank our partner, the Church, for the support you have given us over the past year. The encouragement of Reverend Brian and members of the congregation to the Group Committee, section leaders and the youth have been greatly appreciated.

Don Flynn, Group Commissioner, 72nd St. Marks Scout Group

Church School/Carleton Chaplaincy 2013



It was another great year of learning about how God loves us and how we 2013 was an interesting year. We found that we had a small band of dedicated children, enthusiastic as usual. We explored the world and challenged each other to find Jesus in the world, and find Jesus we did. In the school yard, the Cub and Brownie group, our homes, in our friends and even in Sunday School. We found God wherever we looked as long as we knew to look for love, generosity, caring and friendship. I also found that it was time for me to assess my continued participation in Children and Youth Ministry. From starting as a fill in in 1994 I have found great pleasure in learning and growing with the children and youth that have passed through and those that have continued at St. Mark's. So it was with some internal debate that I decided to take some time off and reassess where I best fit in. I knew that Kate Greer-Close was interested and with her interest comes a great deal of capability and a love for the Lord and his flock of lambs.

I continue to serve in whatever capacity I'm needed and am still involved with the Carleton University Chaplaincy as a board member. I am sure you cannot forget my pleading for assistance for the Pause Table. I was humbled by your generous support both financially and donations as together we were able to serve over 2,200 students. Inspired by God's love,

Michael Perkin

Sunday School

In September of this year a new era began for the Sunday School. Many thanks to Michael Perkin for his many many years of dedication to the Sunday school. Kate Greer-Close accepted the call to take on leadership of this ministry. Wendy Burpee-Boutros expressed a willingness to assist as did Cynthia Greer.

Wendy and Kate met with Father Brian during the fall bbq (Cynthia was running the MU bbq) and discussed ideas of how to proceed.

We do not follow a specific program but we have found several on-line sites that are useful, including a Virtual Church program originally designed for the diocese of Keewatin <http://churchschool.info/> and Sermons4kids <http://www.sermons4kids.com/>. In general, we follow the lectionary and church calendar and teach on the lessons read in church that week.

We begin each week with the nursery and school-aged children together for a prayer and song. Then the nursery children go into the conference room for their story and activity and the school-aged children continue in the Hall with a story and an activity. Activities commonly include crafts, discussion, dramatic representations, songs and prayers. Sunday school finishes in time for the children to participate in Communion, ideally returning during or after the Offertory hymn.

We appreciate when the sidespeople come into the Hall to let us know when the Peace is beginning so that we can prepare to re-enter the service.

Kate, Cynthia and Wendy have all taken turns organising and leading Sunday school. Sunday school is planned for each Sunday (10AM service) and must be flexible as we can have from 0-15 children. On average there are 5-8 children, ranging in ages from 2 to 13. Sunday school roughly

follows the school schedule (e.g. no organised classes during school breaks). Many children attend church with their grandparents and so are unable to attend each week.

Cynthia and the Mother's Union planned and led a special Grandparents' service on Sunday November 24. This was a great success with many additional children joining in wholeheartedly in crafts, songs and a parade.

Although a pageant had not been done within the Sunday service in the last couple of years, Father Brian requested that we plan one. Next year we will be able to plan and publicise this in advance but for this year it was quickly planned and practiced. All children present at the December 22 10AM service were invited to rehearse and participate. The children had learned about the visits of the angels to Zechariah, Mary and Joseph, so a script was written to portray these visits through narrative, song and role play, leading up to the birth of Christ.

Respectfully submitted by Kate Greer-Close

GIFT/Stewardship

Our active GIFT campaign was augmented by one time donations throughout 2013 and now stands at \$148,884 of our total goal of \$198,000. We are still growing and more opportunities to contribute still exist. In 2013 we contributed the following;

Caring Ministry	\$6,300.00
Proclaiming the Word in the 21 st Century	\$637.73
Reaching out into our Community	\$5,400.00
Sustainability	\$1,900 .00
 Total	 \$14,937.73

Diocesan Initiatives				
	Target	Total Available	Spent	Balance Available
Strengthening Congregations				
Parish Vitality	500,000	136,314	32,121	104,193
Children & Youth	300,000	81,788	1,762	80,026
Focusing Ministry Outward				
Diocesan Community Ministries	500,000	136,314	110,610	25,704
Parish Outreach Initiatives				
Bishop's Child Poverty Initiatives	150,000	40,894	25,721	15,173
Educating Leaders				
Lay Leadership Development	200,000	54,526	8,525	46,001
Supporting Curacies	450,000	122,683	117,500	5,183
Clergy Formation	250,000	68,157	2,119	66,038
Connecting with the Wider Church				
Ministry in the North	750,000	204,471	195,000	9,471
PWRDF	200,000	54,526	52,000	2,526
Endowment of the Bishop Ordinary	150,000	40,894	38,000	2,894

The Diocese Campaign has reached the \$12,000,000 mark and continues to grow as more and more churches participate and contribute generously. The following chart shows what Diocesan GIFT funds are doing;

Michael Perkin, Stewardship

Dollar for Dollar

What is the Dollar for Dollar program? You may purchase gift cards from us at face value and spend them in all participating grocery stores listed on the card. Independent and Loblaws are the ones closest to us. The balance of the card decreases as you use it. The cards come in a variety of denominations. We usually stock \$250, \$100, \$50 & \$25 cards. They're quick and easy to use and very easy to carry.

So how does that generate profit for the church? Although you give us \$100 and we give you \$100 to spend in the grocery store, we actually paid less than \$100 for the certificate. Depending on the amount we order at the time, we usually get a discount of 4%. In 2013, \$1,284 was contributed to general revenues through the Dollar for Dollar program. At the end of the year, we had \$12,910 of cards on hand.

The big advantage of this program, in my opinion is that it is "Money for Nothing". You don't have to give a donation; there is no money out of your pocket. The money that you spend on groceries is the same money you would spend on groceries anyway but this way, the church gets a percentage of it! It is an easy and convenient way of paying for groceries. In our house, my husband or daughter will pick up things from the grocery store if I give them the card! You can also use the card in Loblaw's garden centre in the spring to pick up your annuals or at Christmas to buy your tree!

Thanks must be extended to the sales team who have so conscientiously carried out their jobs. The coffee-hour team members, as of the end of 2013, were Georgia Roberts, Coralie Sheehan, Penny Miller and Margaret Pirnat. Margaret Pirnat also sold many gift cards in the office during the week. I wish to thank this team for their dedication to their task in this important fund-raiser for our parish.

Joy Bowerman, Dollar for Dollar Coordinator

Parish Breakfasts, Pancake Supper, and BAC Events

Breakfasts: Because of Lorne's health concern, we only ran two breakfasts in 2013. Both of these were successful. We had cash on hand of \$28.83 at the start of the year, revenue of \$355.00, breakfast expenses of \$83.80, a donation to St Mark's of \$300.03 to close the year. We are very pleased to see Brian Harrison take the lead to continue the breakfast in 2014. Special thanks to Poni Howe, Donna & Les Cundell, Vaughn Barnum, and Helen McGill for their continued support, and to Sheila Pitt who does our phoning.

Pancake Supper: We were down this year to what we were in 2012. We had ticket sales of 74, door sales of 43, and 15 kids for a total of 132 down from 185 in 2012. We had chairs for 148 so not all tables were used. The total ticket sales were \$868.50 and leftover sales were \$25.00. We had expenses of \$238.77. We donated the profit of \$664.73 to St Mark's. Many thanks to all the workers, without whom we could not do it. A great Parish event!!

BAC: The Monthly Luncheons of the Diocesan BAC and Friends are held at the Army Officers' Mess on Somerset St. They run from noon to 1:00 pm on the last Wednesday of most months. Did you notice the word "Friends"? We now have almost an equal number of women and men attending the Luncheons. We held the Lenten Service and Luncheon for the BAC at Saint Paul University in March and it was well attended. The 18th Annual Scholarship Dinner of the BAC was held at St Mark's on May 3, 2013 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Over one-half of those who attended came from St. Mark's. Many thanks. The proceeds from the Dinner were given as a Bursary to an Anglican postulant of the Diocese - for 2013, it was presented to Caroline Ducros from our MAP partner of St. Michel's. The next Dinner will be Friday, May 2, 2014 at St. Mark's.

Submitted by Lorne & Connie Bowerman on behalf of the Parish Breakfasts, Pancake Supper, and the BAC. (The only common element is that Lorne & Connie are involved with them all.)

Rummage Sales

We had one full rummage sale in the spring and a brand new venue for the fall. The spring sale was another success story as we continued to provide value for money to those who need to save a dollar or two and those who are looking for hidden treasures. Volunteers were amazing, setting up tables and displays upstairs and down, providing a welcome to all of those who came through the door and a smiling face for those in need of help. Clean up was yet again a thing of wonder to see, within an hour of closing our doors the whole area was cleaned up and all the leftovers sent on their way to the Salvation Army. St. Mark's Volunteers Rock!!!!

This fall our friend Sheila's memorial service seemed more important than trying to squeeze in a rummage sale and we determined it would go forward with the bazaar. I am grateful that the volunteers and myself were able to share Sheila's service and send her off properly. The marriage with the bazaar was a resounding success. We did not have as much "junque" (junk) this year and with a little juggling we were able to set up the lower hall with rummage, Attic Treasures and books. Clothing was set up in the church and all in all it went extremely well. We look forward to continuing the experiment in the fall with the agreement of the bazaar coordinator.

Michael Perkin

Bazaar 2013

A highly successful bazaar was held on November 2, 2013, followed by a mini-bazaar on December 1. The net revenue from both of these events was \$6733. This year for the first time, we incorporated elements from the rummage sale into the bazaar. We used the back of the church for the jewellery, Mother's Union and clothing. Downstairs we had Attic Treasures, the 25¢ Stage, Books, Toys and Rummage. It was a good day and one that many people worked together on.

The Ladies of St Mesrob Armenian Church joined us at the bazaar again this year and were joined for the fifth year by Jan Sheridan from our local community who represents CanHave, a local charity making a difference in Africa.

The success of the bazaar depends on the commitment and participation of the people within the parish, both in helping to prepare for the event and in coming out to support it. The bazaar would simply not be possible without the knitters, sewers, crafters, bakers, preservers, soup makers, pie makers and sorters of second hand treasures. Also required are greeters, servers, pricers, sellers and setters up and takers down. To run a successful bazaar, almost one hundred people are involved - truly a community event and one whose revenue is necessary to help balance the books. A sincere thank you to all of those involved.

Special thanks to all of the area convenors: Attic Treasures - Janis Perkin; Baking- Penny Miller; Books - Allen Deering, Café - Georgia Roberts; Circle 2 - Marilyn Benn; Crafts - Gale Deering; Jewellery - Pam Rogers & Wanda Bowman; Knitting - Coralie Sheehan; Lion's Needleworks - Joy Bowerman; Note cards - Lorne Bowerman; Preserves - Margaret Pirnat; Rummage - Michael Perkin Toys - Margaret Blakney and Vintage Linens - Jane Delroy As well, the ACW sold puddings and calendars.

Submitted on behalf of the Bazaar staff by Joy Bowerman, Bazaar Convenor 2013

Property

A highlight of the past year was the conversion of the fluorescent light fixtures in the kitchen, offices, and choir room to electronic ballast and new lights. The conversion was part of an Ontario Government and Hydro Ottawa energy saving project. It should save about 25% in energy used by the lights and the bulbs should last 10 years. As well the electrician gave us the old bulbs so that gave us 44 spare bulbs, enough for about three years.

We lost an Eastern White spruce and a Basswood tree from the front lawn during 2013 – both were cut down by the City without any reference to the Church. Both were in danger of falling apparently. The stumps are still there but the City says they will be ground.

In September, Lucas Contracting, our roof and solar installer, sent two workers to examine and repair the flat roof where it was leaking in the spring. They found the problem areas which were poor overlap joints. They repaired it with a propane torch and tar.

We have had some water come in the basement in the north-east corner early in the summer. We moved the chairs, cleaned the area, and stopped the leaking on second try with a file of mortar in the corner and some fill in the garden. So far, so good.

The flower beds around the Church we diligently maintained in excellent shape by Connie Bowerman and Helen McGill. Tender loving care for the Navy Lady roses was provided by Joyce Dunn. Les and Allen helped with the “grunt” on the flower beds when needed.

Overnight on May 14/15, two plastic garbage pails with some shrub trimmings were carried to the parking lot and burnt. They burnt hot enough to melt the plastic and the asphalt, which would indicate some accelerant was used. It was reported to the police. We are thankful that there was no real damage.

We lost our Internet on May 18th for an unknown reason. When it was finally re-established five days later the wireless router that sends to solar energy production information from the workshop to the office router for forwarding to the Enphase website could not be started again. Trevor Dee and Lorne Bowerman concluded that the best solution to get it going again would be to run a wire connection through the basement to the Rummage Room, then to the Office crawl space and then up through the floor to the router. A tough job. Kudos to Paul Greer and Les Cundell who did the job. Lorne did his usual chair sitting while Allen Deering helped. It took two days to send all the back information to Enphase.

The gas meter was exchanged on March 4. What should have been a one hour job took from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, because of extra parts needed and over-booking the technician. Other than the time required, it went well. The waiting time for the gas meter was put to good use by filling the old electrical service hole in the basement wall. That hole was a continual source of dripping water through the electrical box for the past twenty years. Lorne and Allen cut the pipe off with a cold chisel, and Lorne used paring cement to seal the hole. Hopefully, that is the end of that problem.

Some tile in the nave of the Church became loose. Russell Wilkins re-glued them. At some point in time, we will have to re-tile the Church.

Many thanks to all the faithful property workers.

Submitted by Lorne Bowerman on behalf of all those who helped maintain the property.

Financial Data and Statistics

Total Parish Income Data

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Collections:	\$169,000	\$167,734	\$161,158	\$151,354	\$163,447.02
Total Gained from Assets:	\$12,975	\$17,991	\$12,513	\$27,840	\$32,405.70
Total Organizations:	\$10,546	\$12,358	\$11,938	\$11,548	\$9,831.01
Total Directed:	\$9,774	\$7,689	\$4,499	\$4,091	\$4,920.05

Non Directed Contributions

Giving Profile of Envelope Users

\$500 or less:	38%	37%	39%	39%	40%
\$501 to \$1000:	23%	21%	20%	20%	17%
\$1001 to \$1500:	22%	21%	14%	22%	18%
\$1501 to \$2000:	5%	5%	13%	9%	12%
over \$2000:	12%	16%	14%	10%	13%
Totals:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Average Envelope Givings:	\$1,061.62	\$1,064.72	\$1,120.03	\$1,059.12	\$1,150.24

Yearly Percentage Envelope Givings by Month

January	7.7%	6.7%	8.0%	8.0%	7.4%
February	7.0%	8.3%	7.7%	8.4%	7.2%
March	7.8%	8.4%	7.0%	7.5%	9.4%
April	7.4%	7.9%	7.9%	7.5%	7.4%
May	7.7%	8.9%	7.5%	8.4%	6.8%
June	7.4%	7.1%	7.0%	9.0%	9.2%
July	6.7%	6.8%	6.5%	6.7%	7.5%
August	8.1%	8.1%	6.8%	6.6%	4.8%
September	7.4%	8.6%	7.4%	13.2%	8.4%
October	7.8%	7.3%	8.9%	7.3%	7.9%
November	10.0%	9.2%	9.4%	7.6%	12.1%
December	15.0%	12.5%	15.8%	9.8%	11.9%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Parish Identifiable Givers of \$25.00 or more: (from Parish members)

Totals	159	142	137	133	136
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Total Envelopes Used: 171 147 145 140 140

Distribution by Contributors: Weekly - 27; Monthly - 39; PAR – 61; and occasional givers 13. Over the past years, there is a gradual trend to PAR and monthly giving. Many thanks. That makes counting and accounting easier, reduces the volunteer work required, and produces fewer errors. PAR and occasional givers do not receive offering envelopes, but they are accounted for just as though they had paper envelopes - in today's lingo they have "virtual envelopes".

Weekly numbers are 1-99; monthly are 100-199, PAR are 200 - 200, and occasional are 300 -349.

Notes:

Total Collections includes Open, Envelope, Initial Offering, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Total Gained from Assets includes rent, all interest, and Dollar for Dollar.

Total Organizations includes ACW, Bazaar, Parish Breakfasts. Pancake Supper, Rummage Sales, Slim & Trim, and Kicked the Habit.

Total Directed includes all funds given for a purpose (PWR, Centre 454, Flowers, Lenten, etc.)

Treasurer's Report

This year leading up to vestry, there have been many questions about the financial situation of the church, especially in light of the report from the discernment team of the Ministry Assessment Process. I would like in this year's financial report to give some context and historical perspective on the financial situation of St Mark's.

I want to start by thanking the numerous organizations who made financial gifts to the church. The Bazaar, Breakfasts, Pancake Supper, Rummage, Slim & Trim and We kicked the Habit contributed to the treasury of the church. Rentals have been looked after by Allen Deering throughout the year and Roger Ratelle at the beginning of the year. Our bottom line is significantly affected by the faithful work of these people and organizations.

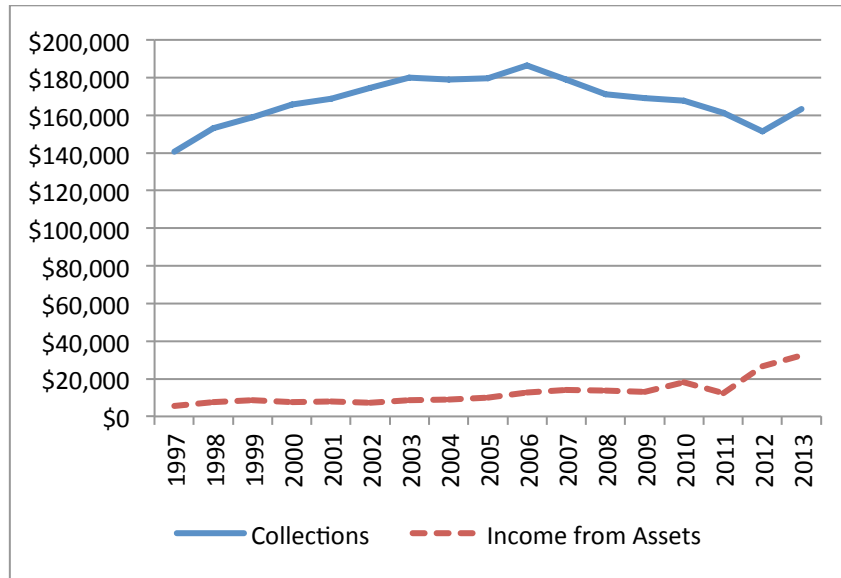
A treasurer is a member of a financial team, all of whom make a valuable contribution to the financial management of the parish. At the end of the year, the Financial Advisory Committee consisted of Joy Bowerman, Lorne Bowerman, Allen Deering, Jane Delroy, Brian Kauk, Michael Perkin, Georgia Roberts and Suzanne Wilkins. The books were audited by John Hancock and Steven Coaker. Les Cundell and his teams of counters make sure the income is recorded and deposited and Envelope Secretary, Connie Bowerman enters the data and double checks for accuracy, as she has been doing since she started as a short term favour for her husband in the 1970's. Lorne Bowerman manages PAR and prepares income estimates for the budget.

When I took over as treasurer in 1998, we did not have a parish nurse, we had outstanding loans at the beginning of the year of \$103,708 which required debt payments of \$18,959. Our collections income was \$153,092 and we could anticipate a rise in collections income the following year. Our total expenses were \$184,132 and we ended the year with a surplus of \$5,235.

Our collections income gradually increased until a peak in 2006 and since then has gently declined. Last year, we saw an increase in collections income for the first time since 2006. Part of this increase was due to a donation received from the estate of a former parishioner and cannot be expected to continue. Collections income continues to be the main source of income for the parish.

When forecasting the long term collections income, it is essential to look at the sources of income. The top 10% of the givers consistently through the years give about 35% of the collections income. In comparing 2004 to 2012, the significant changes are that there has been a decrease in the number of givers (177 down to 137) and the proportion of the top 10% that is composed of people over 80 has increased from 3 out of 18 in 2004 to 8 out of 14 in 2012. Looking at those numbers and looking around the congregation, it is very likely that our collections income will continue to decrease in the years to come, probably even more rapidly as the congregation continues to age.

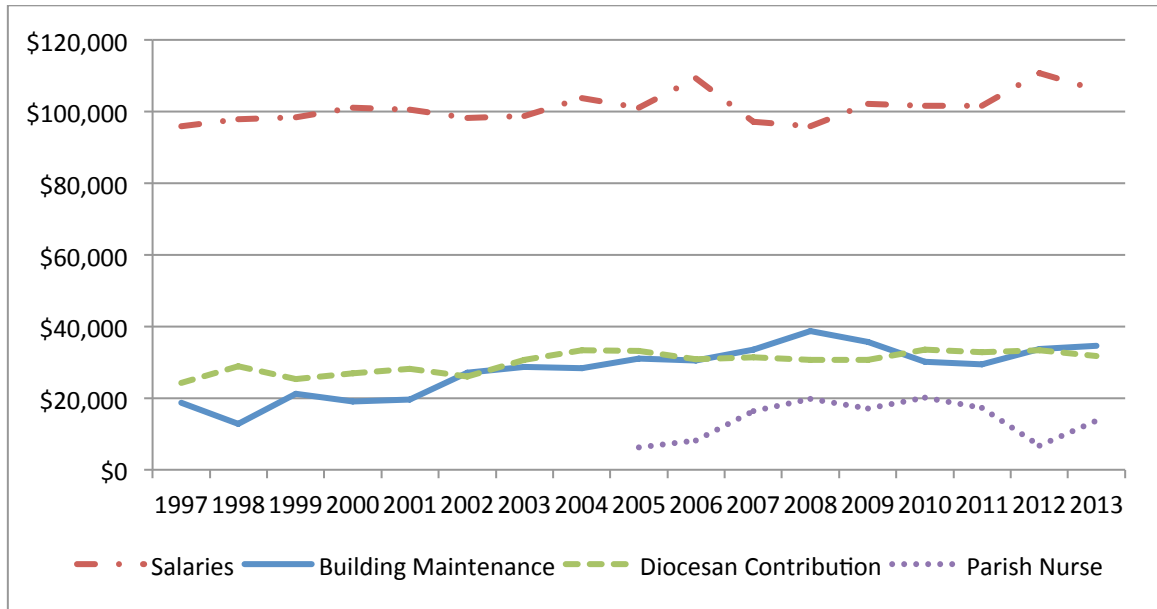
Since 1997, we have seen a substantial increase in the Income from our Assets. This includes rentals, investment income, dollar for dollar and Solar Panels. There has been a gradual increase right up until 2012. This increase came from an increase in rentals and return from investments. In 2012, the solar panels came online and increased this number substantially. The Coptic church also started to rent space and substantially increased our rentals income. While the solar panel income will remain fairly constant, the rental by the Coptic church is by no means secure. They would like to find their own church where they can worship on a Sunday morning.



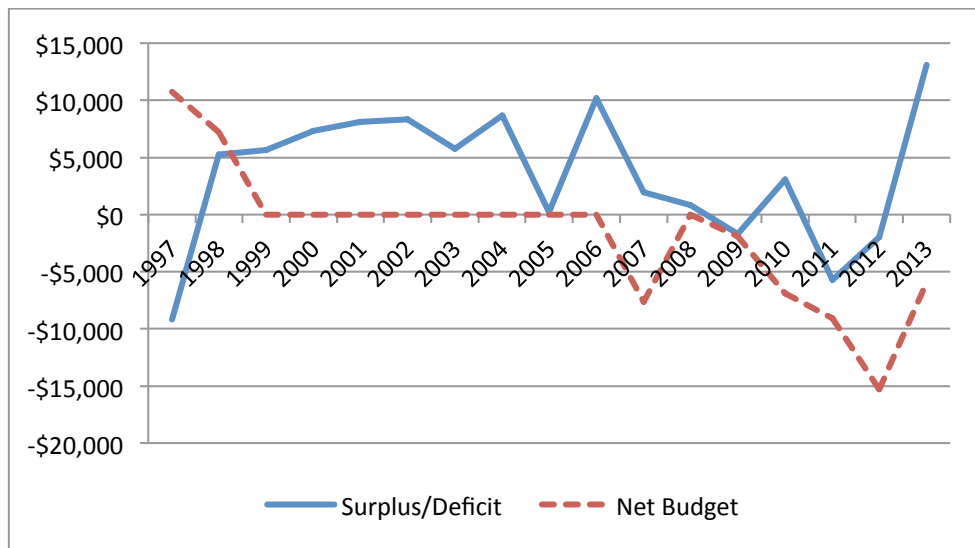
In 2003, twenty years after we cleared our original debt, we again became debt free and no longer had to service and reduce the debt. In 2005, we hired a parish nurse. For the first year, the program was financed from a Reserve Account established to pay for a trial year for a parish nurse. From 2006 until 2009, the parish nurse program costs gradually shifted from the Reserve Account into the Budget until in 2010, the parish nurse programs was completely supported in the budget. In 2013, GIFT funds began to support the parish nurse program.

Our largest expenses are Salaries, Diocesan contributions and Building Maintenance. All of these things have changed over the years. In 1998, the salaries included a secretary, a sexton and a rector. I have also included Salary Equalization in Salaries rather than in Diocesan contributions to allow a better comparison through the years. In 2012, ECOPS (Equalized Cost of Priestly Services) came into effect. Salary Equalization was eliminated because it was now included in the Cost of Priestly Services. The sexton retired in 2002 and was replaced by a cleaning service. Any drops in salaries generally reflect a salary paid for only part of the year. For example, in 2007 Roger Steinke retired and we did not have to pay his salary for the last third of the year. In 2013, Ariane was on leave and with Barb's appointment to St Bartholomew's we paid an supply organist for April, May and June and did not have to pay a regular organist again until September when Ariane returned. You can also see this effect in the parish nurse costs in 2012 when a nurse wasn't hired until September. Overall, however, the cost of priestly services has increased substantially with the introduction of ECOPS. It is masked in the numbers shown since we have reduced the number of hours the parish secretary works and also given her the summer off to reduce costs. This year's salary costs with all of the staff working the whole year are budgeted at \$114,000.

Diocesan contributions have also changed through the years. Up until 2007, we paid Mission and Maintenance to the Diocese. (Assessment & apportionment in even older terms). Starting in 2007, the contributions to the Diocese were called Diocesan Fair Share and given as one number. These have increased slightly but have remained relatively static for the last 10 years. Building maintenance includes heat, light, water, operating expenses such as paper towel, garbage bags, toilet paper, etc., the cleaning service, any repair and upgrade costs that were not drawn from the reserve accounts. These have risen noticeably although less than they might have due to the introduction of energy saving thermostats and efficient lighting.



From 1998 until 2008, we did not have a deficit. Since then, we have certainly had years where we had a deficit, and we have consistently had deficit budgets since 2010 but we have not consistently had a deficit. This year, for example, we actually ended the year with a surplus and last year had a much lower deficit than predicted. However, for the last three years we have not had the full complement of staff. In 2011, we did not pay a parish nurse for the last month of the year since Patti resigned before the end of the year. In 2012, we did not hire a nurse until September, although we had budgeted for a start date of April. Last year, we did not have to pay an organist's salary for the full year.



In the budget for 2014, we have prepared a budget for a stand-alone situation. This is budget with a large deficit. For 2014, if we choose not to share worship with the other churches in the MAP process, the deficit would have to be offset in part by the 2013 surplus and would also have to draw heavily from the reserves. In 2015, we would have to cut staff simply to continue to pay the bills.

I hope this has given you a historical perspective on our financial situation. The future financial situation is tenuous. Although predictions on the future can only be educated guesses, it looks to

me that within several years, we will be in a very difficult financial situation. If we stay on the same course, we are looking at cuts in staff and spending all our energy on preserving the status quo.

The past is written. The future is yet to come. In the end, you are the ones who have to make the decision about which path to take into the future because you are the core of the church. Not the rector, not the wardens, you are the ones who make the future.

Joy Bowerman
 Treasurer

Reserve Accounts Activity

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Capital Projects			29,091.61
Donations	144.00		29,235.61
Bequest	2,500.00		31,735.61
Transfer from GIFT	1,900.00		33,635.61
Transfer from Memorials	263.33		\$33,898.94
 Choir Fund			 1,702.04
Photo Framing & plaque		151.40	1,550.64
 Choir Gowns			 \$872.00
 GIFT Funds			 30,753.67
Transfer from Diocese	11,226.15		41,979.82
Debra-Dynes		5,400.00	36,579.82
Animate Series		600.00	35,979.82
Transfer to Budget for Parish Nurse		6,300.00	29,679.82
Transfer to Capital Projects		1,900.00	\$27,779.82
 Key Deposits			 455.69

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorials			8,557.71
Memorials Received	2,385.00		10,942.71
New altar linens		2,196.54	8,746.17
Library		134.70	8,611.47
Restoration of Communion vessel		308.20	8,303.27
Prayer candles		149.66	8,153.61
Oak Missal stand		114.33	8,039.28
Sound System repair		127.62	7,911.66
Transfer to Ministry Reserve		263.33	7,648.33
Transfer to Capital Projects		263.33	\$7,385.00
Ministry			12,231.40
Bequest	2,500.00		14,731.40
Parish Nurse Formation		790.00	13,941.40
Pause Table		284.16	13,657.24
Transfer from Memorials	263.33		\$13,920.57
Pastoral Care Support Fund			\$875.00
Rector's Discretionary			369.33
Income	2,845.64		3,214.97
Disbursements		2,803.56	\$411.41
Tree Care			\$900.00

**St Mark's Church
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2013**

	Dec 31, 13
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
TD BANK	74,425.31
Total Chequing/Savings	74,425.31
Other Current Assets	
PST Receivable	2,122.93
HST Receivable	913.05
Dollar for Dollar	11,402.43
Total Other Current Assets	14,438.41
Total Current Assets	88,863.72
Other Assets	
Investments	
Judy Corbishley CTF	6,000.00
Gladys O'Ray CTF 2654	29,000.00
Memorials CTF 2534	5,804.37
Rectory Trust CTF 4053	327,787.49
Total Investments	368,591.86
Total Other Assets	368,591.86
TOTAL ASSETS	457,455.58
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
RESERVE ACCOUNT	
GIFT Funds	27,780.02
Ministry	13,920.57
Choir Gowns	872.00
Capital Projects	33,898.94
Choir Fund	1,550.64
Key Deposits	455.69
Memorials	7,385.00
Pastoral Care Support Fund	875.00
Rector's Discretionary	411.41
Tree Care	900.00
Total RESERVE ACCOUNT	88,049.27
Total Other Current Liabilities	88,049.27
Total Current Liabilities	88,049.27
Long Term Liabilities	
Judy Corbishley Bequest	6,000.00
Gladys O'Ray Bequest	29,000.00
Rectory Trust	327,787.49
Total Long Term Liabilities	362,787.49
Total Liabilities	450,836.76
Equity	
Internal Loan	-6,446.06
Net Income	13,064.88
Total Equity	6,618.82
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	457,455.58

Auditor's Report

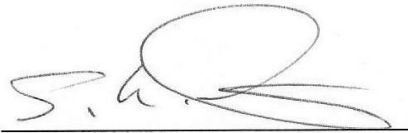
January 31, 2014

To the Parish of Saint Mark the Evangelist
Anglican Church of Canada
1606 Fisher Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario

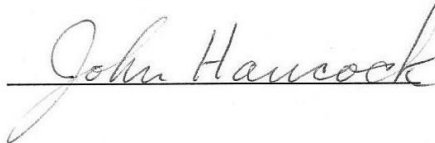
A review of the financial records of St. Mark's was performed for the year ended December 31, 2013. Our review was made in accordance with generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to us by officers of the Parish. In our opinion the financial statements fairly present the financial activities of St. Mark's Church for the year ended December 31, 2013

Reviewed by:

Stephen Coaker



John Hancock



Budget

	2013 Actual	2013 Budget	2014 Budget
Income			
GENERAL			
Collections			
Open	10,569	12,850	8,000
Identifiable Open	9,044		
Envelope	139,761	145,000	145,000
Special Collection	4,073	4,000	4,000
Total Collections	163,447	161,850	157,000
Gain from Assets			
Rent	17,105	14,000	16,500
Investment Income	1,544	1,000	1,200
CTF Interest Paid	1,083	800	800
Solar Power	11,390	11,000	11,000
Dollar for Dollar	1,284	1,500	1,500
Total Gain from Assets	32,406	28,300	31,000
Organizations			
ACW			
Bazaar	6,733	5,500	6,000
Rummage	918	2,000	1,000
Slim & Trim	550	400	400
Pancake Supper	655	800	700
Breakfasts	300	400	300
We Kicked the Habit	675	720	720
Total Organizations	9,831	9,820	9,120
Weddings	500		
Total GENERAL	206,184	199,970	197,120
INCOME FROM RESERVES			
GIFT Funds for Parish Nurse	6,300	4,000	4,000
Capital Projects			3,500
Ministry			
CTF Bequests			
Total Income from Reserves	6,300	4,000	7,500
DIRECTED			
Centre 454			
Cornerstone			
Crosstalk			
Debra-Dynes Family House	728		
Flowers	1,565		
Forward Day by Day	32		
Lenten Outreach			
Not specified	1,395		

Debra-Dynes	30		
St Lukes	75		
Total	1,500		
PWR Fund	1,095		
Other Directed Income			
Total DIRECTED	4,920	0	0
Total Income	217,404	203,970	204,620

Expense
SALARIES

Staff	102,152	109,099	114,149
Clergy Fill-in	199	550	1,200
Organist Fill-in	3,750	150	600
Total SALARIES	106,101	109,799	115,949

WORSHIP

Service & Altar Supplies	1,065	1,200	1,000
Flowers	1,404		
Hymn & Service Books	36	30	40
Book Repairs			
Music		500	150
Piano/Organ		375	3,000
Total WORSHIP	2,506	2,105	4,190

PARISH NURSING MINISTRY

Parish Nurse Services	20,000	20,000	20,000
Program Income			
Program Expenses	57	1,000	1,000
TOTAL Parish Nursing	20,057	21,000	21,000

PROGRAMS

Christian Education	25	225	400
Church School			200
Conferences & Memberships	503	325	500
Membership		150	150
Publicity	295	400	400
Nursery	31	100	100
Pastoral Care	20	250	250
Prayer Shawl Ministry			
Stewardship			
Synod	315	400	400
Total PROGRAMS	1,188	1,850	2,400

OUTREACH

Debra-Dynes	1,456
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Church of St Mark the Evangelist
Reports to the Annual Vestry held on 23 February, 2014

	Diocesan Fair Share	31,705	31,705	33,673
	PWR Fund	1,095		
	Other Outreach	773		
	Total OUTREACH	35,028	31,705	33,673
FINANCE				
	Bank Charges	526	500	500
	Supplies	475	200	200
	Insurance	4,875	4,875	4,973
	Total FINANCE	5,876	5,575	5,673
CHURCH				
	Cleaning Service	15,585	14,900	14,900
	Operating Supplies	1,341	1,200	1,200
	Electricity	4,190	5,000	4,500
	Gas	3,602	6,000	5,000
	Repair & Upgrade	1,548	3,300	3,300
	Projects		500	
	Security	224	250	250
	Snow Removal	1,976	2,200	2,400
	Telephone	1,224	1,000	1,200
	Water	1,057	700	1,000
	Total CHURCH	30,749	34,550	34,250
MISCELLANEOUS				
	Rector's Discretionary	190	200	200
	Wardens' Discretionary		100	100
	Office Supplies	139	500	500
	Photocopying	1,087	1,500	1,200
	Computer & Internet	768	780	660
	Postage	295	250	600
	Forward Day by Day	78		
	Other Miscellaneous	278		
	Total MISCELLANEOUS	2,835	3,330	3,260
Total Expense		204,339	209,914	220,395
Net Income		\$13,065	-\$5,944	-\$15,775

Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee - consisting of Allen Deering (Chair), Georgia Roberts, Jane Delroy, Les Cundell and Janis Perkin- respectively submits this report.

The following people have been nominated and have agreed to stand for vacant positions on the 2014/15 Parish Council:

Incoming Deputy People's Warden	Penny Miller
Synod Member (Two Years)	Janis Perkin
Alternate Synod Member (1 year)	Coralie Sheehan
Member at Large (2 years)	Kathy Chu
Member at Large (1 year)	William Knight

The following names make up the balance of the Parish Council:

Rector	The Reverend Brian Kauk
Outgoing Deputy Rector's Warden	Georgia Roberts
Rector's Warden	Suzanne Wilkins
People's Warden	Jane Delroy
Treasurer	Joy Bowerman
Membership	Cynthia Greer
Property:	left vacant temporarily
Stewardship	Michael Perkin
Outreach	Gillian Morris
Choir Representative	Margaret Lodge

A proposal for changing how Nominations Committee should be composed and who could fill the positions for next year will be presented at Vestry.

On behalf of the Nominations Committee I would like to thank those who served on Parish Council and whose term has come to an end: Audia Barnett, Gale Deering, Coralie Sheehan, Jenny Morphew, Allen Deering. Thanks also to Les Cundell who served as our Parish Council Chair.

Respectfully Submitted by Allen Deering

Addendum Presented at Vestry

The nomination committee is proposing that the following formula be used in the future to make up the Nomination Committee:

- 1) The Warden who becomes outgoing Deputy Warden at this year's Vestry (This Warden will be the chair for next year's Vestry)
- 2) The person who is currently outgoing Deputy Warden (and the chair of the present committee)
- 3) The other three which will make up the balance of the committee will be recruited by this year's Nomination Committee

Using this formula the following people will make up next year's Nomination Committee: (1) Georgia Roberts, (2) Allen Deering, (3) Jim Kelly, (4) Brian Harrison, (5) Margaret Lodge.

The nomination committee is also recommending that we only have two members at large each for two years and that they be elected in off setting years.

Minutes of the Annual Vestry held on Sunday, February 24, 2013**ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST
ANNUAL VESTRY
FEBRUARY 24, 2013****CALL TO ORDER**

Vestry was called to order at 11:48 a.m. The chairperson for the meeting was Rev. Brian Kauk and Janis Perkin was appointed vestry clerk.

The meeting was opened with prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY, FEBRUARY 19, 2012

Rev. Kauk called for errors and omissions. None were forthcoming and a motion to accept was moved by Allen Deering and seconded by Judy Darling. **CARRIED**

RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rector's report was delivered at the 10:00 am service. Copies were made available to members of vestry, on paper and electronically.

Motion: That the 2012 Rector's report to vestry 2013 be distributed by mail to every household in the parish. Moved by Margaret Lodge, and seconded by Margaret Blakeney. **CARRIED**

CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT

Approval of the Warden's Report was moved by Phil Conquer and seconded by Judy Darling. **CARRIED**

MINISTRY ASSESSMENT PROCESS (MAP) REPORT

Judy Darling gave an overview of the process and what had occurred so far between the three parishes.

The following motion was presented to Vestry:

"It is moved that the vestry of St Mark's receives the report on the recent conversation with St Michael's and St Richard's from the organizers and is in favour of continuing these discussions using the Ministry Assessment Process (MAP) suggested by the Diocese; and this vestry supports Georgia Roberts and Judy Darling as St Mark's representatives to the Ministry Assessment Process Team, continuing to liaise with the two partner parishes St Michael's and St Richard's and seeking volunteers to implement MAP at St. Mark's.

Some points of discussion followed. Keith Wilkins pointed out that the work implement indicated that there was an end point. It was indicated that at the end of the process a formal motion would be made to Vestry before any implementation would take place.

The motion was moved by Judy Darling and seconded by Georgia Roberts. **CARRIED**

2012 FINANCIAL STATEMENT & AUDITOR'S REPORT

Joy Bowerman the treasurer requested that the first paragraph and table be deleted from the Vestry report as it was in fact part of the previous year's report. Acceptance was moved by Coralie Sheehan and seconded by Gale Deering. **CARRIED**

THE PRESENTATION OF 2013 BUDGET

Acceptance was moved by Lindsay Setzer and seconded by Georgia Roberts. **CARRIED**
Joy Bowerman pointed out that it wasn't a balanced budget and that Parish Council had reviewed it in February 2013. A question was asked about repairs to the organ and any funds for repair would come out of Capital Expenses.

LENTEN ALMSGIVING OUTREACH

Joy Bowerman asked Vestry to consider the following three choices for the Lenten outreach:

Dynes Family House
PWRDF - The Sahel Famine
St. Luke's Lunch Club

Voting was done by secret ballot.

Michael Perkin and Gillian Morris served as scrutineers who counted the votes and then reported to Vestry.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The nominations committee was faced with several vacancies on Parish Council this year. The congregation was asked for input and many people were approached. We were not able to find a nominee for the position of Membership. We recommend that this position remain vacant until a suitable candidate is found. We are pleased to offer the following slate for 2013:

(* = Parish Council Position)

*Chair of Parish Council Les Cundell
*Synod Member (2years) (Elected 2013) Pamela Rogers
*Alternate Synod Member Sheila Vaudrey
*Membership Vacant
*Member at Large (1 year) Audia Barnett
*Member at Large (1 year) Coralie Sheehan
Auditor Stephen Coaker
Auditor John Hancock

These people have agreed to stand for the above offices:

Nominating Committee for 2014
Allan Deering (Chair)
Jane Delroy
Les Cundell
Janis Perkin
Georgia Roberts

The following names make up the balance of the Parish Council:

Rector The Reverend Brian Kauk
 Rector's Warden Suzanne Wilkins
 People's Warden Jane Delroy
 Deputy Warden (People's) Allan Deering
 Synod Member ((Elected 2012) (2 years) Jennifer Morphew
 Synod Member (Warden) Jane Delroy
 Alternate Synod Member (Warden) Georgia Roberts
 Treasurer Joy Bowerman
 Property (Reporting via Jr. Warden) Lorne Bowerman
 Member at Large (2 year, elected 2012) Gale Deering
 Stewardship Michael Perkin
 Outreach Gillian Morris
 Choir Representative (Choir Nomination) Jennifer Morphew

It was noted that Coralie Sheehan should be elected to a 2 year term and Coralie agreed to the 2 year term. Parish Council will continue to seek someone to fill the Membership vacancy.

Nominations were then closed with a motion from John Hancock, seconded by Allen Deering. The acclaimed slate was **CARRIED**.

ALL OTHER 2012 REPORTS

Acceptance of all other reports was moved by Michael Perkin and seconded by Judy Darling. In the Property Report on page 31 the words "past 20 years" will be struck from the record.

APPOINTMENT OF BANK

Joy Bowerman moved that St. Mark's continue using Toronto-Dominion Trust at Emerald Plaza as the financial institution of choice. Motion was seconded by Gale Deering. **CARRIED**

The two Lenten outreach projects chosen are Debra-Dynes Family House and St. Luke's Lunch Club. There was a motion for the destruction of the Lenten Offering ballots made by Joy Bowerman and seconded by Gale Deering. **CARRIED**

MOTIONS OF THANKS

Allen Deering offered thanks for the Property Management Team.

Sincere thanks was offered by Betty Caughlin to The Ministry Assessment Team.

John Hancock offered thanks to Joy Bowerman for her work as treasurer.

Margaret Blakeney offered thanks to Cynthia Greer for all of her roles at St. Mark's.

Michael Perkin offered thanks for the GIFT team and the ambassadors.

Margaret Lodge and E-prayer were given thanks by Allen Deering and Margaret Williamson.

Thanks was offered by Gillian Morris for the knitters in the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Georgia Roberts offered thanks for Connie Bowerman our envelope secretary and her 40 years of service in that role.

Betty Caughlin was thanked for her role as Parish Library librarian.

Margaret Lodge offered thanks to Barbara Hallam-Price for stepping into the fray as musical director.

Betty Caughlin thanked Fr. Brian for his guidance in the parish particularly in times of loss.

Donna Evans acknowledged Vaughan Barnum for all that he does in the parish.

Thanks was offered by Sheila Young to Margaret Pirnat for all of her work on the Vestry Report and her flexibility.

A motion of adjournment was made by Judy Darling and Joy Bowerman.

Respectfully submitted by *Janis, Perkin*, Vestry Clerk February 24, 2013

Lenten Outreach

As part of our Lenten program since 1999, we have included almsgiving envelopes to support outreach initiatives. This has allowed us to broaden our outreach in a way which our church budget will not allow. We are planning to continue this program for the year 2014. Please prayerfully consider the projects listed below. This year at parish council, there were 3 projects brought up for consideration. It is our intention to support two of these projects. They will be selected by secret ballot at vestry.

Offering envelopes are available at the back of the church during Lent. These should be used in addition to your regular offering envelopes. All money received in these envelopes will be divided evenly between the outreach projects chosen at vestry. If you wish your offering to be directed specifically to one of the projects or to a different project, please write the name of your choice on the blank line at the bottom of the label on your lenten offering envelopes. If nothing is filled in on this line, it will be assumed that the money should be split evenly between the two projects chosen. Don't forget to write your name or envelope number on the envelope to receive tax credit for your donation!

Previous Projects Supported

- 2007 Centre 454, St. Jude's Iqaluit
- 2008 Centre 454, The Mission
- 2009 Grandmothers to Grandmothers, St. Jude's Iqaluit
- 2010 Debra-Dynes Family House, Cornerstone
- 2011 Debra-Dynes Family House, Cornerstone
- 2012 Debra-Dynes Family House, Ancoura
- 2013 Debra-Dynes Family House, St Luke's Table

Centre 454

In 2014, Centre 454 is celebrating 60 years of service in our community! As the oldest of the Anglican Diocese's five community ministries, Centre 454 has grown from humble beginnings in 1954 into an award-winning program where people in our community who are homeless, inadequately housed, or living in poverty come to access practical supports (such as showers, laundry, mail and phone), supportive group and individual counselling, broader community services, a rich social recreation program . or simply a warm, safe, welcoming place to be.

In addition the possibility of donations through St Mark's Lenten Outreach envelopes, members of the parish might want to explore the "60 ways to make a difference" initiative launched by Centre 454 to celebrate their anniversary: <http://www.centre454.ca/60-Ways-Registration-Form.html>

Diocese of Jerusalem

In late 2012, the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem, with the support and encouragement of the Archbishop of Canterbury, launched an international campaign to support their most crucial ministries in the Holy Land. They asked every Anglican to contribute one dollar toward ministry in Jerusalem.

Bishop John Chapman, in the January 2013 Crosstalk, called the idea "brilliant ... A reasonable response by our Anglican Communion would secure the ministries of hospitals, schools, parishes, shelters and clinics throughout the holiest of lands during these troubling times. ... This will be a very easy way for us to support our partner Diocese. "

He stated "Christians are so few in number in the Diocese (Jerusalem) but yet their ministry is very large and significant. It provides for us here in Ottawa a valuable teaching. Thousands of lives, regardless of religion, are touched by the caring hand of gospel people committed to the

well being and integrity of every human being. Catherine and I were moved deeply and often by the strength of faith, stubborn commitment to the ministry of Jesus, and the sacrificial hospitality that was extended to so many."

St Jude's Cathedral, Iqaluit

St Jude's Cathedral is the cathedral for the Anglican Diocese of the Arctic. It was destroyed by arson in late 2005, and is being rebuilt with support and prayers by people across Canada. It is also this year's ACW Special Project, which is meant to encourage parishes to support the rebuilding efforts with a special fundraising event. Many have read Leslie Worden's recent article in Crosstalk, outlining critical need at the present moment. Debts owing to the receiver following the financial collapse of Dowland Contracting Ltd., to whom the diocese owed about \$3 million for the construction of the new St Jude's Cathedral, threaten not only the future of the Cathedral ministry, but also puts the church's extensive social ministry at risk.

Rector's Report

The Rector's report to Vestry is intended in the Canons, Bylaws and Regulations of the Diocese to be a "report upon [the] condition, progress and needs of the Parish" (R.5.05). For the past six years I have used this pattern to frame my reports to the Vestries of St Mark's. For this, my seventh report to Vestry, it seems important to look at the progress and condition of the parish from the perspective of more than just the past year. We are at a critical point in St Mark's life cycle. We need to take the long view.

Similarly, current needs must be considered in terms of what is required to sustain ministry in the long term. St Mark's has served in this part of Ottawa and Nepean for the last 65 years. We must consider what is needed for the mission of the Church to continue. As I emphasized in my report last year, I believe the mission of the church is at stake.

Early this year, I spent a day at the Diocesan Archives in the basement of Christ Church Cathedral. There, I discovered a time machine. I read the Sunday-by-Sunday report of attendance at worship recorded in the Vestry books held for us and carefully preserved. It was like reading rings on a tree trunk. I saw years that were good, and years that were not as good. The signatures of my predecessors and other clergy were occasionally supplemented by anecdotes to explain a situation – "Blizzard prevented Mr Rogers attendance" (a reference to the Reverend Allan Rogers, noted on March 27, 1955).

I travelled back to 1949, witnessed the birth of St Mark's and great joy as 65 people celebrated together when they "moved into new church!" on January 30, 1955. I watched the unfolding formation of a parish. It grew quickly with the surrounding community, struggling at times to keep pace with exponential growth. I watched the parish stabilize after the sudden decline that all churches in North America experienced in the mid 1960's. People who lived and served through those years report: "it was like the bottom fell out of the Church market." But we continued to provide a stable parish platform for the ministry and mission of the church, and have faithfully carried that task into the present day.

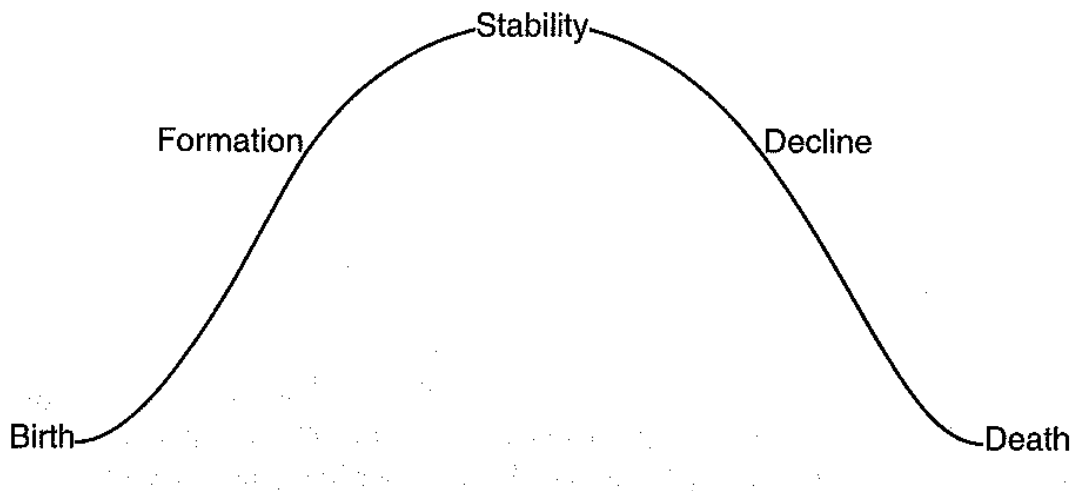
Alice Mann is an Episcopal priest and consultant with the Alban Institute. Her work in the field of congregational development and redeveloping struggling congregations is recognized across North America. In a video interview on the Alban website, she relates that her first task with congregations is to face together the realities of the current situation, and to face them without

blame. As she says, there are “much bigger patterns of cultural change within the community, and change within the congregation itself, that have brought them to a new circumstance.”

Her book *Can Our Church Live? Redeveloping Congregations in Decline* is one of the most valuable resources on my bookshelf, and has stood the test of time. She opens the first chapter like this:

Nothing on earth lives forever. Perhaps creation could have unfolded otherwise, but it did not. No living organism goes on forever. Instead, life expresses itself in cycles of birth and death, emergence and decline. The persistence of a species is assured not by the preservation of an individual specimen but by the capacity of each generation to sow seeds of the next.¹

She goes on to describe the life cycle of a congregation, which can be represented as she does in the figure below:²



Of course, this is just a model. Rarely does a real-world congregation follow this theoretical model in precise detail. In order to examine the life cycle of St Mark’s, I charted the yearly average Sunday attendance. This is the usual accepted method of assessing parish vitality within the field of congregational development, and is suggested by Mann in her work with local congregations.

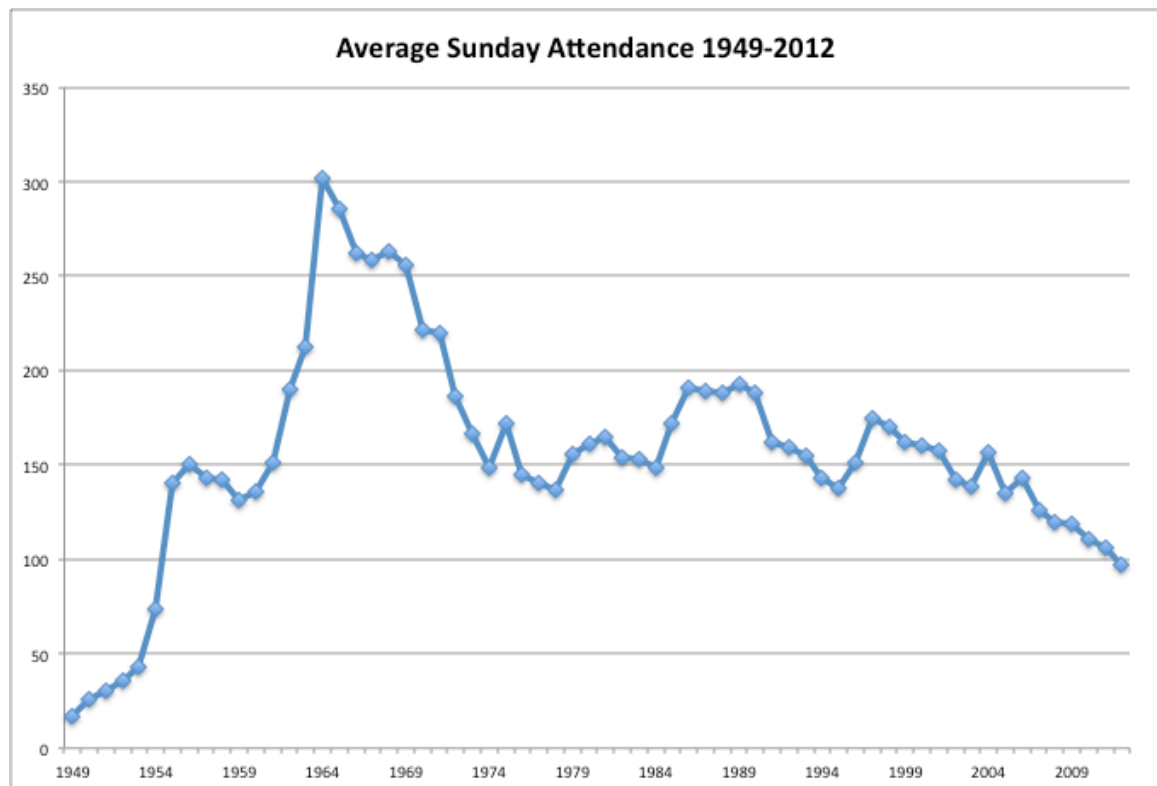
Given that policies and procedures evolved over the years, affecting how the data were gathered, we can expect some variety in how accurately the data were collected, and how closely they represent what actually happened on a given Sunday or in a given year. But for the purpose at hand of assessing overall trends over time, I believe the data are sufficiently reliable and valid. In recent years, average Sunday attendance was reported on an annual return to the Diocese. For some years prior to that, an average was calculated by the clergy and reported in the registers themselves. For many years prior to that, it was necessary to enter the individual record for each Sunday service on a spreadsheet and calculate the average. A data table is included at the end of this report detailing the source of each year’s average Sunday attendance. I wish to thank Lorne

¹ Alice Mann, *Can Our Church Live? Redeveloping Congregations in Decline* (Washington, D.C.: The Alban Institute, 1999), 1.

² *Ibid.*, 2.

Bowerman and Margaret Pirnat for the hours they provided assisting me transcribing handwritten records. I did my fair share as well. I would also like to thank Georgia Roberts for her professional guidance on how to deal with the occasional (and inevitable) missing data using acceptable statistical methodology.

The life cycle St Mark's shows a period of rapid and early growth, followed by immediate decline and subsequent stability. This is likely due to the context in which we were "born" – a new neighbourhood established in the post-war baby boom. The curve "leans" to the left, and has an extra spike. For us, that happened in 1964, as you can see in the chart below.



We should not be surprised to see other variations from the overall trend predicted by Mann's model. Each year has a story behind it, with ups and downs along the way. We would be less than fully human if this were not the case. But it seems clear that the overall trend since 1997 has been towards decline, with some rallying along the way. There is a prior decline from 1990-1995, which appears to be "pushed outward" for two years, and then resumes. This coincides with the decline and subsequent closure of St Peter's Merivale Road. A significant number of parishioners came to St Mark's from St Peter's during those years. This does not appear to affect the overall trend.

It should be noted that 2013 was not included in the chart above. Our average Sunday attendance as reported in the annual return to the Diocese rose to 99 from 97. However, included in this calculation are three Sundays this summer when attendance was nearly double what it usually is in summer months, due to shared worship with St Michael's and St Richard's. Excluded from this calculation are six Sundays where the attendance is significantly lower than the rest of the year by comparison. The result is an artificially inflated average. Correcting for this inflation, by

either excluding summer months entirely or using attendance figures from the previous year, shows an actual decline of 6 or 7 attendees on average from 2012 to 2013.

Some may have an immediate reaction to what this chart represents. Feelings of discouragement, surprise, or even anger are normal. However, we must resist the urge to assign blame. Just as our early years were formed by the context of rapid growth, so too the current trend towards decline relates to the changing cultural landscape and context in which we find ourselves today.

This chart does not tell the whole story, nor does it pretend to. There are many signs of strength and deep commitment around us. Total Collections and Average Envelope Givings are up in 2013. As a result, we were able to pay down the accumulated deficit and bank the remaining surplus. Unfortunately, we will run through this surplus in 2014 following the budget as planned.

Our people really are our greatest strength. I can't say often enough how much I appreciate the efforts and contributions of Ariane Dind, Margaret Pirnat and Janet Helmer. I must also highlight the personal support I have come to rely on working in a team with the Reverend Margo Whittaker and the Reverend Dr Linda Privitera. We share daily prayer together, and so much more of our hopes and dreams for the church. Georgia Roberts completes her term as my Rector's Warden: it's a rare day that I don't hear from Georgia, and from her wisdom and deep concern for people's well-being, I learn what needs to go to the top of my list. I hope she doesn't stop calling! If you read through the other reports to this Vestry you see all the faithful groups and leaders of this parish: the Choir, Altar Guild, Sunday School leaders, Sidespersons and Coffee Roster participants who make Sunday happen; the Perley Team, Health Committee and others who care for others' needs; the intersection of parish family and wider community that happens at the Rummage and Bazaar events; the Corporation and Council and all the others who continue serve in our time. There are some among us, as always, who consistently offer their time, talents and resources in service to the church at great personal cost, enabling the rest of us to be the church in the world. This is not the picture of a dying church, but of a church that gladly bears the cross of Christ in the world God loves.

The reality of the current situation that we must face, and must face without blame, is that we have entered the mid-point of decline in our life cycle. If we do nothing and nature takes its course, we will eventually decline to the point where we can no longer sustain ministry, and closure will be the only option available to us. We are not there yet. We are not forced into anything right now. But at some point in the future we will be. By the time we get there, we will not have the resources we have now to effect necessary change. In that sense, we have arrived at a moment of opportunity that will not last forever.

Right now, we have the time and resources, human and financial, to pursue a different course. The Ministry Assessment Process resulted in a proposal for us to consider. As a member of the Leadership and Discernment Teams, if it hasn't been clear to you before now, please know this proposal has my full support. Wide consultation among the three churches and a period of intense, prayerful and deep discernment has provided us with an alternative to decline and eventual closure. I urge every member of this parish who intends to vote at the special vestry on April 6 to carefully and prayerfully reflect on this proposal. Listen for the Spirit's call to live fully in God, and vote as your conscience directs you. I personally believe that this is the best

available option for a parish I have come to know and love, and one that I wish to serve with all I have to offer.

We need to hear the call that rings throughout scripture: do not be afraid. God has not brought us this far only to abandon us. 2014 may turn out to be the most important year in the entire life of St Mark's, where our true mettle and pioneering spirit will be shown, where our faith will be tested, where we will show ourselves to be a true and faithful community of Christian disciples, following Jesus in ministry and mission to one another and to the world around us.

Data Table for Average Sunday Attendance 1949-2012

YEAR	AVG SUN	SOURCE
1949	17	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1950	26	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1951	30	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (1553)
1952	36	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (1638)
1953	43	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1954	74	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1955	140	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1956	150	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1957	143	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1958	142	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1959	131	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1960	136	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1961	151	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1962	190	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1963	213	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1964	302	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1965	286	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1966	262	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1967	259	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1968	263	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1969	256	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1970	222	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1971	220	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1972	186	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1973	167	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1974	149	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1975	172	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1976	145	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1977	140	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1978	137	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1979	156	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1980	161	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1981	165	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1982	154	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1983	153	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1984	149	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1985	172	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA
1986	191	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (9918)
1987	189	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (9841)
1988	188	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (9757)
1989	193	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (10243)
1990	188	CALCULATED FROM RAW DATA (SPOT CHECK)
1991	162	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (8403)
1992	159	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (8292)
1993	155	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (8058)
1994	143	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (7446)
1995	138	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (7336)
1996	151	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (7868)
1997	175	REPORTED IN REGISTER
1998	170	REPORTED IN REGISTER
1999	162	REPORTED IN REGISTER
2000	160	REPORTED IN REGISTER

YEAR	AVG SUN	SOURCE
2001	158	REPORTED IN REGISTER
2002	142	REPORTED IN REGISTER
2003	139	REPORTED IN REGISTER
2004	157	CALCULATED BASED ON TOTAL REPORTED ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SERVICES (8140)
2005	135	STATISTICAL RETIURN
2006	143	STATISTICAL RETIURN
2007	126	STATISTICAL RETIURN
2008	120	STATISTICAL RETIURN
2009	119	STATISTICAL RETIURN
2010	111	STATISTICAL RETIURN
2011	106	STATISTICAL RETIURN
2012	97	STATISTICAL RETIURN